McPherson Elementary School Library Computer Lab Proposal

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Signature: Breanna Haywood  Date 5/29/2011

McPherson Elementary School
Library Computer Lab

Grant Proposal

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INFO 520
Drexel University
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I. Executive Summary

The McPherson Elementary School Library, a Title I school, wishes to become a proper school library media center by acquiring a computer lab. In doing so, the library will be able to integrate technology into the library curriculum, as well as provide digital access to its student population. This project is significant to the student population because only a mere 15% of the students have a computer at home and only 13% have Internet connections available. By providing a computer lab at McPherson Elementary, students will be able to learn 21st Century technology skills such as using search engines, word processing software, and the library’s online public access catalog (OPAC) to find materials within the library.

II. Setting
Community

McPherson Elementary School is located in Napa, California. The city’s population is approximately 75,000 persons, with 26.8% of residents claiming Hispanic of Latino origin (U.S. Census, 2009). Many of the Latino residents work in Napa’s main agricultural industry, which is grape-growing and winemaking.

School, Library, and Patrons

The school accommodates grades Pre-Kindergarten through fifth grade, and the student body currently numbers 679. Demographically, the student population is comprised of is 97% Latino and 82% native Spanish speakers. In addition, 89% of McPherson students qualify as low-income and receive free or reduced lunch. The library at McPherson has 9,000 items available for checkout in both English and Spanish. The average copyright date of books in the library is 1995. Each classroom
visits the library once per week for a 45-minute period. During the visit students receive a library lesson and checkout materials.

The McPherson Elementary school library has three goals. The first is to share the love and benefits of reading. The second is to provide a collection of credible, unbiased materials and resources for every reader regardless of difficulty, format, or subject. The third is to provide support to the classroom curriculum and teachers at McPherson by providing materials and resources.

Staff

The entire staff at McPherson is made up of 55 talented and respected individuals. There are 23 credentialed classroom teachers, 3 administrators, 2 on-site counselors, 1 credentialed librarian, and 24 classified staff members (nurses, maintenance, clerical, instructional aides, and support staff). A full-time credentialed librarian and one library clerk staff the school’s library.

III. Statement of Need

The McPherson Elementary School and library share the Napa Valley Unified School District’s mission to instill 21st Century Skills in our students. The mission of NVUSD’s 21st Century Learning Initiative are as follows: “Instruction must enable students to take ownership of their own learning, use technology to enhance learning, and ensure that student are active participants and ENGAGED in personalized educational experiences” (NVUSD, 2011). Currently, McPherson has met two of the goals as stated in the above mission statement. However, we are insufficient in technology, which makes it nearly impossible to fulfill the second goal of integrating technology to enhance learning. By acquiring a computer lab, students
would be able to learn properly use technology and master this aspect of 21st Century learning.

It is extremely important to have a computer lab at McPherson because the vast majority of students are victims of the Digital Divide. According to the American Library Association (ALA), the Digital Divide can be defined as “differences due to geography, race, economic status, gender, and physical ability” that affect access to information via the Internet and other technologies, as well as effecting the skills and knowledge needed for digital access (ALA, 2001). A survey taken at McPherson revealed that only 15% of children have a computer at home, and only 13% have a computer with an Internet connection. Meaning three-fourths of McPherson students are “Information Have-Not’s” that are on the wrong side of the Digital Divide. Without access to Internet at home, it is even more important to create a computer lab at school that lets these students bridge the divide.

IV. Proposed Program

The number one benefit of information technology is that it empowers people to do what they want to do. It lets people be creative. It lets people be productive. It lets people learn things they didn’t think they could learn before, and so in a sense it is all about potential. The technology, the software, it doesn’t do anything -- it enables people do things they didn’t think they could do (Ballmer, 2005).

Project Goals

The McPherson Elementary School library would like to acquire a computer to create a true school library media center. This proposed computer lab would serve many purposes and McPherson and would benefit every student, as all students will have access to the lab. During class visits, which occur weekly for a 45-minute period, each student will use the computers for two different reasons. At the
beginning of the class period students will each be accessing their own computer, while the credentialed school librarian will give instruction to the students via the teacher workstation and eBeam, an educational interactive whiteboard product. Instruction will differ depending on grade and teacher/classroom needs. Examples of various instructional lessons may include navigating search engines, creating bibliographies, using Microsoft Office programs to complete school assignments, etc. After the lesson students will use the computers to access the library’s OPAC to research and locate books to checkout for free-reading or academic reasons.

In addition to the class visits students will also be able to access the computer lab before and after school. In the library students will be able to sign-up for a time slot for a computer workstation to use for school-related purposes.

Students can also access and use the all-in-one printers to print, scan, or copy documents.

**Materials Needed**

In order to make the proposed computer lab into a reality, several materials will be needed.

- 30 student desktop computers
- 1 teacher desktop workstation
- 1 eBeam Edge interactive whiteboard
- 1 Hitachi LCD projector
- Microsoft Office 2011 software licenses
- 3 printers

**Planning and Implementation Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>June 2011</td>
<td>Order all equipment and software for computer lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 2011</td>
<td>Install and configure computer lab equipment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
August 2011 | Provide professional development training in the lab
---|---
August 2011 | Establish computer lab procedures/curriculum
September 2011 | Open computer lab

2 | All year | Provide additional professional training based on needs assessment
---|---|---
All year | Provide maintenance on computers as needed

V. Methods of Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Objective</th>
<th>How this will be measured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide digital access to students that support the classroom curriculum and teach them to effectively use the computer, Internet, and other software programs.</td>
<td>Student survey- Self-administered to measure the student’s technological growth as well as the gain constructive feedback.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide support to classroom teachers</td>
<td>Faculty/Staff surveys and/or interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determine why students access the computer and/or Internet at school</td>
<td>Librarian will keep a log detailing the computer and Internet use of students in the computer lab.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. Proposed Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Unit Qty.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Year 1    | iMac 21.5 inch desktop  
2.7GHz Quad-Core Intel Core i5  
4GB 1333MHz DDR3 SDRAM - 2x2GB  
1TB Serial ATA Drive  
AMD Radeon HD 6770M 512MB GDDR5  
Apple Magic Mouse  
Apple Wireless Keyboard | $1399.00 | 31 | $43,369.00 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>eBeam Edge for Education</strong>&lt;br&gt;receiver: 7.9&quot; x 1.6&quot; x 0.4&quot;&lt;br&gt;stylus: 5.65&quot; in length x 0.6&quot; diameter at grip&lt;br&gt;cable: 15' USB, with eBeam connector&lt;br&gt;3-year warranty</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1049.95</td>
<td>$1049.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hitachi LCD Projector</strong>&lt;br&gt;CP-X2511&lt;br&gt;Brightness 2,700 ANSI lumens&lt;br&gt;Weight 8.2 lbs.&lt;br&gt;Resolution - Video 540 TV lines&lt;br&gt;Resolution - RGB 1024 Dots X 768 Lines&lt;br&gt;Dimensions 12.5&quot; x 3.9&quot; x 11.3&quot; (W x H x D)&lt;br&gt;Contrast ratio 2000:1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$659.99</td>
<td>$659.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Microsoft Office for Mac 2011</strong>&lt;br&gt;Three full licenses&lt;br&gt;Complete versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint&lt;br&gt;Store files online for shared access and editing</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
<td>$1649.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Epson WorkForce 630 Wireless All-In-One Printer</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rapid print speed of 15 ISO ppm (black)*&lt;br&gt;Individual ink cartridges&lt;br&gt;30-page Auto Document Feeder&lt;br&gt;250-sheet paper tray means you reload paper less&lt;br&gt;Wireless printing with built-in Easy Epson Wi-Fi&lt;br&gt;1 year warranty</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
<td>$449.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chairs and tables</strong>&lt;br&gt;To be purchased and donated by the McPherson PTC</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>No Cost</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professional Development</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Provided by Faculty and Administration)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>No Cost</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Professional Development</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Provided by Faculty and Administration)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>No Cost</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VII. Conclusion

Thank you for considering this request for a computer lab by the McPherson Elementary School library. By funding this program the students at our school will benefit in numerous ways. The first benefit is that students will have access to computers and the Internet when at school. The second benefit is that the computer lab will help teachers integrate technology into the curriculum. The third benefit is that our students will bridge the digital divide and learn skills and tools to navigate computers and other technologies.

VIII. References

